

- For Immediate Release -Thursday, April 24, 2008

Arizona Department of Public Safety to Take Part in Torch Ride to Aide Special Olympics

Sponsored by LETR (Law enforcement Torch Run)

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 26, at Chandler Harley - Davidson, a number of Arizona Department of Public Safety Officers, including Director Roger Vanderpool, will mount their motorcycles and deliver Olympic torches on six different runs across the state. Director Vanderpool will deliver torches to Law Enforcement Officers taking part in next week's Torch Run in Winslow. Other Police Officers from around the state will deliver torches to Kingman, Nogales, Safford and Yuma.

Director Vanderpool, who is the Honorary Ride Chairman, will be speaking before the ride at approximately 9:00 a.m. The Torch Ride is intended to raise awareness for the 2008 Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics which begins on Monday April 28, 2008 and runs through Friday May 2nd. Law enforcement officers run, bike or skate in six different routes throughout the state.

Last year more than \$500,000 was raised by Law Enforcement in Arizona for Special Olympics. The second highest amount raised came from the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

"Both the Torch Ride which is new this year and our traditional Torch Run is a chance for police officers throughout the state to give something back to their community. Even if you're not associated with Law Enforcement I encourage everyone to give generously to Special Olympics either with your time or money," said Roger Vanderpool, Director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

A Torch Ride Pre-Party at Chandler Harley-Davidson will be held Friday April 25th from 4 to 7 p.m. at 6895 W. Chandler Blvd.

Proceeds benefit Special Olympics Arizona.